

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1 1. A depth cue method comprising the steps of:
2 scanning a depth map corresponding to an image, in response to user input; and
3 outputting a nonvisual cue corresponding to a depth value in said depth map, for
4 each pixel scanned.
- 1 2. The method of claim 1 wherein said nonvisual cue is selected from the group
2 consisting of auditory cues and tactile cues.
- 1 3. The method of claim 1 wherein said depth map is received in response to a web
2 page containing said image.
- 1 4. The method of claim 3 further comprising the step of, if no depth map is received
2 in response to said web page containing said image, generating said depth map.
- 1 5. The method of claim 4 wherein said step of generating said depth map comprises:
2 performing a depth analysis of a set of images associated with said image, said
3 set of images operable for extracting depth information therefrom.; and
4 assigning a depth value corresponding to said depth information for each pixel
5 corresponding to said image.
- 1 6. The method of claim 5 wherein said set of images associated with said image is

1 selected from the group consisting of a stereographic pair including said image and a
2 plurality of images operable for displaying motion.

1 7. The method of claim 5 wherein said step of generating said depth map further
2 comprises the steps of:

3 setting each depth value in a data structure to form said depth map; and
4 outputting said data structure.

1 8. A computer program product embodied in a tangible storage medium, the
2 program product for accessing graphical data, the program product including a program
3 of instructions for performing the steps of:

4 scanning a depth map corresponding to an image, in response to user input; and
5 outputting a nonvisual cue corresponding to a depth value in said depth map, for
6 each pixel scanned.

1 9. The program product of claim 8 wherein said nonvisual cue is selected from the
2 group consisting of auditory cues and tactile cues.

1 10. The program product of claim 8 wherein said depth map is received in response
2 to a web page containing said image.

1 11. The program product of claim 10 further comprising programming for performing
2 the step of, if no depth map is received in response to said web page containing said
3 image, generating said depth map.

1 12. The method of claim 11 wherein said programming for performing step of
2 generating said depth map comprises programming for performing the steps of:

3 performing a depth analysis of a set of images associated with said image, said
4 set of images operable for extracting depth information therefrom.; and

5 assigning a depth value corresponding to said depth information for each pixel
6 corresponding to said image.

1 13. The program product of claim 12 wherein said set of images associated with said
2 image is selected from the group consisting of a stereographic pair including said image
3 and a plurality of images operable for displaying motion.

1 14. The program product of claim 12 wherein said programming for performing step
2 of generating said depth map further comprises programming for performing the steps
3 of:

4 setting each depth value in a data structure to form said depth map; and
5 outputting said data structure.

1 15. A data processing system comprising:
2 circuitry operable for scanning a depth map corresponding to an image, in
3 response to user input; and
4 outputting a nonvisual cue corresponding to a depth value in said depth map, for
5 each pixel scanned.

1 16. The system of claim 15 wherein said nonvisual cue is selected from the group
2 consisting of auditory cues and tactile cues.

1 17. The system of claim 15 wherein said depth map is received in response to a web
2 page containing said image.

1 18. The system of claim 17 further comprising circuitry operable for, if no depth map
2 is received in response to said web page containing said image, generating said depth
3 map.

1 19. The system of claim 18 wherein said circuitry operable for generating said depth
2 map comprises:

3 circuitry operable for performing a depth analysis of a set of images associated
4 with said image, said set of images operable for extracting depth information therefrom.;
5 and

6 circuitry operable for assigning a depth value corresponding to said depth
7 information for each pixel corresponding to said image.

1 20. The system of claim 19 wherein said set of images associated with said image is
2 selected from the group consisting of a stereographic pair including said image and a
3 plurality of images operable for displaying motion.

1 21. The system of claim 17 wherein said circuitry operable for generating said depth
2 map further comprises:

3 circuitry operable for setting each depth value in a data structure to form said
4 depth map; and

5 circuitry operable for outputting said data structure.